

and understanding as well. His life paralleled that of the Middle East in his time: he fought tirelessly for the security and prosperity of his people, and then turned that same strength and wisdom to forging a peace that would ensure that this security and prosperity would live on after him.

His death reminds us all that the cost of leadership is sometimes very high. But his life serves as an example for what can be achieved through courage and determination to do what is right. The tributes paid to Prime Minister Rabin by King Hussein, President Mubarak, and other leaders from the region and around the world have been mirrored in the unprecedented outpouring of support expressed by the people of Israel for his living legacy, the pursuit of a just and enduring peace of all the people of the Middle East. I am committed to continue doing all I can to ensure that this goal is realized.

Q: What is your view of the importance of Palestinian economic development to the success of the peace process?

A: We agree that Palestinian economic development is a key ingredient in building a lasting peace. It is essential that the Palestinian people see that the peace process has produced tangible benefits in their daily lives, that their future—and that of their children—has changed for the better because of the decision to pursue dialogue and reconciliation over confrontation. Since October 1993, the United States has taken the lead in mobilizing the international donor effort to support the Palestinian Authority and to help provide the foundations for a better and more prosperous life for the Palestinian people.

The United States has met fully its pledge of \$100 million per year in assistance and we are encouraging other donors to ensure that their aid commitments are fulfilled as rapidly as possible. In order to help the Palestinian Authority meet its responsibilities under the Interim Agreement and to move forward on infrastructure development projects critical to the building of a vibrant economy, we are a major organizer of the Conference on Assistance to the Palestinians to be held in Europe this December.

In addition to our leading role in the international donor effort, we are also working to improve the environment for private sector economic growth and investment. We are discussing with Israel and the Palestinians the possible establishment of industrial zones, as well as ways in which Israel's justifiable security concerns can be addressed consistent with our shared desire to promote development of the Palestinian economy. Consistent with our desire to promote Palestinian entrepreneurship, US Trade Representative Kantor has recently announced an agreement to extend duty-free treatment to Palestinian goods entering the United States.

Q: With the recent imposition of Presidential sanctions on Iran, US-Iranian relations have reached a new low. What are the prospects for the success of sanctions on Iran and what is the potential value of a dialogue with Iran?

A: Our problem is not with the people of Iran; it is with the unacceptable behavior of the Iranian government: direct and indirect support for and use of terror; subversion of states friendly to the United States; military intimidation of its neighbors; and acquisition of weapons and technologies of mass destruction—including nuclear.

The Executive Order I signed earlier this year, imposing a complete ban on US financial and commercial dealings with Iran, is intended to demonstrate our resolve that Tehran pay a price for continuing its threatening activities. To be fully successful, we need the support of Iran's other trading part-

ners in Europe, Asia, and around the world. We are urging them to follow our example and help ensure that sustained and meaningful economic pressure is brought to bear until the behavior of the Iranian government changes.

While we are prepared to have a dialogue with authoritative representatives of the government of Iran at any time, it must be made clear that normal relations cannot exist until such time as Iran ceases its objectionable activities.

Q: UN economic sanctions have been imposed on Iraq for five years now. While the sanctions seem to have checked the military capabilities of Saddam Hussein, he still remains in power and the Iraqi people suffer. How successful can sanctions be?

A: The United States is committed to the maintenance of sanctions against Iraq until Baghdad complies fully with all its UN Security Council obligations. Recent revelations by Iraqi defectors and the work of UN inspectors provide compelling evidence that Saddam Hussein has consistently attempted to deceive the United Nations. They also show that as recently as last summer, Saddam was planning new threats against his neighbors.

We are deeply concerned about the humanitarian plight of Iraqi people. But there must be no doubt that Saddam is responsible for their suffering. He has refused to avail himself of the opportunity under UNSC resolutions to sell oil to pay for food and medicine, preferring to divert resources to his supporters and military and to use his own people as hostages in the pursuit of international sympathy for lifting of the sanctions.

Sanctions are the primary means available to the international community to compel Iraqi compliance with Security Council resolutions and to ensure that Iraq does not again become a threat to the region. Given Saddam Hussein's track record, the Council has a responsibility to hold him to the highest possible standard. With respect to the future of Saddam Hussein and his regime, that is a matter for the Iraqi people alone to decide.

Q: As you are involved in the peace process, and as the region undergoes important changes, what is your vision for the future of the Middle East and for America's interests there?

A: Our vision for the future of the Middle East is a simple one. We want to see the establishment of a peaceful and prosperous region in which all nations and peoples can live in freedom and security.

There is much work still before us, but we are making real progress toward our goal. The peace process has made unprecedented advances in the last two years, and despite the loss of one of its greatest champions, it continues to gather momentum. The enemies of peace such as Iran, Iraq, and Libya are increasingly isolated. More and more regional governments are recognizing that dialogue and reconciliation—and the trade and development that accompany and reinforce peace—are the best means of ensuring a better future for their nations. The United States will continue to stand by those who take risks for peace and work together with them to ensure that our mutual vision is realized.

OCEAN TOWNSHIP HADASSAH
PAYS TRIBUTE TO ISRAEL
PRIME MINISTER RABIN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in memory and honor of the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin, Ocean Township Hadassah in Monmouth County, NJ, has pledged a donation to the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Karem, Israel, so that it may continue its life-saving work of healing, teaching, and research. I rise today, both to pay tribute to the slain Israeli soldier, statesman, and peacemaker, and to my friends from the Jersey shore area who are striving to pay a lasting tribute to this great world leader.

Mr. Speaker, I shall never forget September 13, 1995. On that brilliantly sunny day I was fortunate to be among those on the White House lawn to witness the signing of the Israel-PLO treaty by Prime Minister Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat. We witnessed in person, as did millions of others the world over who watched on television, an event we had hoped for but never really thought we would see. In his moving speech, the Prime Minister summed up the feelings of the people of Israel and their many strong supporters here in America: "Enough of blood and tears. Enough."

Yitzhak Rabin's life in many ways mirrored the history and destiny of his country. He fought valiantly in Israel's War of Independence in 1948. In the Six Day War of 1967, he brilliantly led the Israel Defense Forces in a stunning victory that greatly enhanced Israel's security. Yet it would still be many years before Israel's recalcitrant Arab neighbors were ready to negotiate with the Jewish State. First, Egypt's President Anwar Sadat came forward in the cause of peace—and, like Yitzhak Rabin, paid with his life at the hands of fellow countrymen who were not yet ready to say "Enough" to war. Finally, PLO Leader Arafat and, more recently, Jordan's King Hussein, also chose the road of peace with Israel. During the years that the Arab state of war and economic boycott against Israel remained in effect, Yitzhak Rabin stood ready to fight, if necessary, to defend Israel's security. Yet, late in his career, the Prime Minister had the courage to recognize a changing world and to accept, indeed embrace, change. The huge turnout of world leaders at Mr. Rabin's funeral demonstrates—including many of his former Arab enemies—just how rare and impressive his courage was. While most of us will remember Mr. Rabin's gruff demeanor and military bearing, minutes before his death, Yitzhak Rabin was smiling and singing a song of peace with thousands of Israelis in Tel Aviv.

On the day of the historic signing of the peace accord, my guest was Sharon Portman of Ocean Township, a long-time supporter and leader in Ocean Township Hadassah and many other community organizations. Sadly, Sharon passed away last summer. Sharon had dedicated so much of her time and energy to working for a strong and secure Israel, and believed passionately that one day Israel would achieve peace with her Arab neighbors. Whenever I think back to that signing ceremony on the White House Lawn, there is a tinge of sadness as I think about Sharon.

Mr. Speaker, Ocean Township Hadassah is a volunteer organization of close to 450 women ranging in age from their midtwenties to their midfifties. After the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin, members of the organization, as well other members of the community, sought a way to make a lasting tribute consistent with Mr. Rabin's life-long dedication to the betterment of the Jewish State. Prime Minister Rabin spoke to the women of Hadassah at their convention in Israel last summer,

praising their fundraising efforts to build and maintain hospitals in Israel. The Prime Minister expressed the fervent hope that Hadassah Hospital would treat Israeli children for many years—but “never again to be treated due to the ravages of war.”

Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay particular tribute to Elynn Shapiro, president of Ocean Township Hadassah, for her leadership in this tribute to Yitzhak Rabin, and to the many other citizens of our community who have contributed to this most worthy effort.

SECRETARY OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS, JESSE BROWN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my gratitude for the noteworthy accomplishments achieved by Secretary Jesse Brown on behalf of the veterans of this great Nation. Since his selection as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the women and men who served our country have had a knowledgeable and responsive supporter in that post.

Among some of Secretary Brown's greatest accomplishments are:

The creation of new clinics allowing veterans more access to VA health care.

Assistance to one and a half million veterans with employment services in a joint venture with the Department of Labor to increase the number of veterans hired in the Federal Government.

The expansion of programs for homeless veterans by doubling the resources dedicated to these initiatives, and the institution of a grant program to assist public and non-profit organizations in assisting homeless veterans.

A more complete accounting on the register of Vietnam veterans' diseases for which service-connected compensation is awarded based on exposure to herbicide agents.

The expansion and great improvement in health care services for those combat veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.

The increased attention given to the needs of women veterans including mammography quality control and counseling, and medical programs for women veterans who suffer the after-effects of service-related sexual trauma.

The establishment of a home refinancing program that enables veterans to obtain lower home loan rates, thus saving an average of \$1,500 a year.

There are about 70,000 veterans in the Eighth Congressional District of Virginia, so I am very concerned about the service these individuals receive. Even with such a large number of veterans' needs to be processed from just northern Virginia, the VA procedures are exceptional. The VA under Secretary Brown has worked so well, in fact, that my need for inquiries has declined from several cases a month to several cases a year.

Secretary Brown's initiative to improve services to veterans also saved money through streamlining, privatizing or consolidating activities. I could not ask for better support for those who served this country.

While Secretary Brown's promotion of a decent budget to support these benefits has fre-

quently been rebuffed, the services his Department provides shows his steadfast commitment to our Nation's veterans and their families. We should not forget the responsibility this Nation has to our service members and their survivors. Budgets and associated dollars cannot replace the sacrifices these veterans have made.

As a combat veteran himself, Secretary Brown has walked the walk. He has ensured that VA benefits and the health care system are efficient and support our veterans. He is a true American, a friend, and a great man.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CITIBANK
FOR EXCELLENCE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD
OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as the saying goes “we reap what we sow.” In my home district of Guam, one of our local banking institutions is showing a commitment to our island in a wonderful way: They are sowing seeds, or in this case “seed money.”

Since 1992, Citibank of Guam has awarded \$10,000 in cash to our island's top teacher of the year. This is a competition for public and private school teachers from kindergarten through high school, but the winners are the children.

We have many noteworthy teachers on Guam, and I know they work under difficult conditions which demand commitment and integrity. As a former educator, I salute the teachers of Guam and also Citibank for honoring excellence among professional educators.

Citibank helped to form a private corporation to expand this fine program. In addition to Citibank, the newly formed Excellence in Teaching Foundation now includes corporate citizens Ernst & Young and the Pacific Daily News. Kudos to them as well.

It is events like this program that display the character of our island community. Our corporate citizens took this task upon themselves. They know that a quality education for our children is the key to their company's success.

Our teachers are vital, yet their work requires much more than Government can fund, more than parents can give and more than the private sector can donate. This program provides a little incentive, or seed money, to push an already taxed teacher corps. To our 1993 winner, Ms. Jelly Flores and to our 1994 winner Ms. Sandra Bojtos, I commend you.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH O. BUSICK

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding businessman from the Eighth District of Pennsylvania upon the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his business, Delaware Landscape Stone and Delaware Quarries, Inc.

Mr. Busick served in the Air Force in World War II and was decorated as a bomber pilot flying the Flying Fortress B-17.

At the end of his active duty in 1946, Mr. Busick returned to Bucks County and started a small quarry in Mt. Pleasant. He continued to serve in the Air Force Reserve and retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1969.

In the intervening years his business grew from that small quarry to a company with four operational locations and between 80 and 125 employees, depending upon the time of year. In 1955 Mr. Busick took over an abandoned quarry that has been in existence since 1758. In the first year of operation that quarry was flooded out, but Mr. Busick was undaunted and continued to work for the growth of his business. The company produces decorative stone of all kinds and also building stone for facades. Stone from these quarries graces universities, churches, and commercial buildings all over the country as well as private homes and garden walls. Mr. Busick also sells stone produced by other quarries throughout the United States.

It was in 1972 that the company's newest operation was opened near Orlando, FL. That operation, called Pebble Junction, creates most of Disney World's stone work. Mr. Busick and his son, J. Kevan Busick, who is now CBO of the business, have recently created a park in Sanford, FL. The park which is open to the public is beautified with waterfalls, ponds and landscaping stone from their quarries.

Joe Busick continues to be active in the business with his son, Kevan, but he is also an avid gardener and staunch defender of the environment. He has turned more than 300 acres of his own land into a wildlife preserve to protect animals from the rapid development taking place in our district.

Mr. Busick has contributed much to our communities through his successful business and through his many other endeavors.

ED MEYER: 25 YEARS AT THE
HELM OF GREY ADVERTISING

HON. TOM LANTOS
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today marks a very important milestone for one of the most respected and enduring leaders of the business world. Ed Meyer celebrates his 25th anniversary as chairman and chief executive officer of Grey Advertising, during which time he has been a shining example of a good corporate citizen. I feel it is important to bring Ed Meyer's many extraordinary accomplishments to the attention of this body so that we may appreciate and honor this exemplary American.

There are many successful executives in this country, but relatively few have been at the helm of an industry giant for so long. Indeed, Grey Advertising is an industry giant—largely because of the vision, skill, integrity and humaneness of Ed Meyer. When he joined the firm, Grey had 1 office and 14 clients. Today, under Ed's leadership, there are 277 offices in 72 countries, including APCO public affairs here in Washington.

As a highly successful international entrepreneur, Ed Meyer has been a pioneer in leading U.S. firms to new markets throughout the world, thereby advancing America's position as a leader in the global marketplace of